

Message Text

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64
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 PRS-01 SSO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00

CCO-00 /032 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/P:GFSHERMAN:RGH

APPROVED BY P - MR. SISCO

NEA - MR. ATHERTON

S/S - O: L. MACFARLANE

S/PRS (INFO)

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O 070316Z FEB 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 030555 TOSEC 030009

FROM SISCO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, US, IS

SUBJECT: ACTION MEMORANDUM: PRESS GUIDANCE ON STORIES

QUOTING RABIN ABOUT OUTCOME OF HIS VISIT (S/S NO. 7602654)

1. REUTERS TODAY CARRIES FOLLOWING DISPATCH FROM TEL AVIV
ON RABIN'S RETURN TO ISRAEL:

"PRIME MINISTER YITZHAK RABIN SAID TODAY ON RETURN FROM AN
OFFICIAL VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES THAT ISRAEL HAD BEEN
PROMISED ENOUGH WEAPONS TO ENSURE A SERIOUS STRENGTHENING OF
ITS ARMED FORCES.

"TALKING TO REPORTERS, MR. RABIN SAID ISRAEL AND THE U.S.
HAD ALSO AGREED ON POLITICAL AIMS WHICH SHOULD GO FAR BEYOND
WHAT WAS ACHIEVED IN LAST SEPTEMBER'S INTERIM PEACE AGREEMENT
WITH EGYPT.

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'IF POSSIBLE, THE MAIN GOAL MUST BE PEACE OR VERY CLOSE TO PEACE,' HE SAID. THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT DURING HIS TALKS WITH PRESIDENT FORD AND OTHER AMERICAN LEADERS IT WAS AGREED THAT ISRAEL 'WOULD TRY TO COME TO TERMS WITH JORDAN.' THE U.S. 'FULLY AGREES WITH US THAT THERE CAN BE NO THIRD STATE BETWEEN ISRAEL AND JORDAN,' HE DECLARED. ISRAEL 'DID NOT GET ALL THE ARMS IT REQUESTED, BUT WE WILL

RECEIVE SUFFICIENT TYPES AND AMOUNTS TO ENSURE A SERIOUS STRENGTHENING OF OUR ARMED FORCES,' MR. RABIN SAID."

2. ISRAELI PRESS TODAY IS ALSO SAID TO REPORT THAT A "SENIOR OFFICIAL" IN RABIN'S PARTY SAID THAT YOU HAD TOLD RABIN IN YOUR LOS ANGELES TALKS OF USG PLANS TO SELL C-130'S TO EGYPT. A QUESTION ON THESE REPORTS CAME UP AT THE DEPARTMENT NOON BRIEFING TODAY.

3. I PROPOSE FOLLOWING PRESS GUIDANCE FOR YOUR CLEARANCE TO BE USED BY DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN IN ANSWERING ALL QUERIES ON THESE STATEMENTS:

"I AM NOT GOING TO BE DRAWN INTO A POINT-BY-POINT SUMMARY OF THE TALKS PRIME MINISTER RABIN HAD WITH THE PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY KISSINGER. LET ME MAKE ONE GENERAL COMMENT--THESE WERE NOT DECISION-MAKING TALKS. A NUMBER OF WAYS TO PROCEED WITH THE PEACEMAKING PROCESS WERE DISCUSSED, BUT WE HAVE REACHED NO CONCLUSIONS REGARDING THE MOST PRACTICAL COURSE TO PURSUE TO MOVE THE NEGOTIATIONS FORWARD. OUR EXPLORATIONS WITH THE PARTIES CONTINUE. ON THE MILITARY

SIDE, THE UNITED STATES REMAINS FULLY COMMITTED TO THE SURVIVAL AND SECURITY OF ISRAEL, BUT NO DRAMATIC DEPARTURE HAS TAKEN PLACE IN OUR LONGSTANDING MILITARY SUPPLY RELATIONSHIP. AS TO A POSSIBLE MILITARY SUPPLY RELATIONSHIP WITH EGYPT, INCLUDING C-130'S, I REPEAT WHAT HAS ALREADY BEEN SAID: NO UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT DECISION WILL BE TAKEN WITHOUT THOROUGH CONSULTATION WITH CONGRESS."

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APPROVE DISAPPROVE

4. DRAFTED BY: NEA/P:GFSHERMAN

APPROVED BY: J. SISCO

-- "-" EA-AATHERTON; S/S-O: L. MACFARLANE SISCO

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TOSEC, PRESS COMMENTS, MILITARY ASSISTANCE, HEAD OF GOVERNMENT VISITS
Control Number: S7602654
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 FEB 1976
Decapton Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decapton Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE030555
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: GFSHERMAN:RGH
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760047-0019
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760271/aaaackgp.tel
Line Count: 114
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 JUN 2004 by ElyME>; APPROVED <30 JUN 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ACTION MEMORANDUM: PRESS GUIDANCE ON STORIES QUOTING RABIN ABOUT OUTCOME OF HIS VISIT (S/S NO. 7602654)
TAGS: PFOR, MASS, US, IS, (RABIN, YITZHAK)
To: SECRETARY
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006